Appl. No. 10/776,012 Amdt. dated September 18, 2008 Reply to Office Action of March 20, 2008

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed on March 20, 2008. Attached is a petition for a three-month extension of time.

In this Amendment, Claims 1, 5, 9, and 10 are amended; and Claims 16-17 are added, leaving Claims 1-17 pending and subject to examination. A number of rejections are provided in the Office Action. They are discussed in the order presented in the Office Action. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is respectfully requested.

I. Examiner Interview

Applicants thank Examiner Sadaat for the telephonic interview granted on September 3, 2008. Pursuant to M.P.E.P. §713.04, Applicants respectfully submit the following Applicants' Summary of Interview.

Claims 1-15 were generally discussed during the interview. Also, the Examiner's interpretation that the claims have intended use limitations was discussed. Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with this interpretation, Applicants have amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants believe that the cited references do not teach or suggest the features of "a memory device comprising computer code embodying an educational program" and "a light in the stylus...illuminated to indicate that the stylus is available for use during operation of the educational program," of amended Claim 1. Applicants also believe that the cited references do not teach or suggest the feature of "computer code embodying a program that informs a user to use the stylus with the first educational program and the directional control pad with the second educational program" of amended Claim 9. Further, Applicants also believe that the cited references do not teach or suggest the somewhat similar features of amended Claim 5.

II. Section 103(a) Rejections

A. Claims 1-4, 9-13, and 15

Claims 1-4, 9-13, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,042,478 to Ng ("Ng"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons discussed below.

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The Office Action acknowledges that Ng does not explicitly disclose the features of a "code for an educational program' and 'to indicate that the stylus is available for use during operation of the educational program." Office Action, page 3, paragraph 2. The Office Action interprets the features as intended use limitations. Id. Applicants have amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner so that the features will no longer be interpreted by the Examiner as intended use limitations.

As indicated above, Applicants believe that the cited references do not teach or suggest the features of "a memory device comprising computer code embodying an educational program" and "a light in the stylus...illuminated to indicate that the stylus is available for use during operation of the educational program," of independent Claim 1, as amended. Applicants also believe that the cited references do not teach or suggest the feature of "computer code embodying a program that informs the user to use the stylus with the first educational program and the directional control pad with the second educational program," of independent Claim 9, as amended.

Thus, Applicants believe that the cited references do not teach or suggest the limitations in independent Claims 1 and 9, and their dependent claims. For this reason, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

B. Claims 5-8 and 14

Claims 5-8 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ng in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,608,618 to Wood "Wood"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons discussed below.

1) Claims 5-8

Applicants believe that the cited references do not teach or suggest "a memory device comprising computer code embodying an educational game," and "control logic configured to control illumination of the light, wherein the light is illuminated at specific points during the course of the educational game to indicate that the stylus is available for use," where the "light [is] in the stylus," of Claim 5. Thus, Applicants believe that the cited references do not teach or suggest the limitations in independent Claims 5 and its dependent claims.

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Claim 14 2)

Dependent Claim 14 is patentable based on its dependence on independent Claim 9 and further because it recites other patentable distinctions over the cited references.

For these reasons, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted

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